

my own Congressional District in Arkansas. Pharmacy has a long history of receiving, filling, billing and dispensing prescriptions in tandem with counseling. But pharmacists, utilizing their specialized education, also play a major role in medication therapy management, disease state management, immunizations, healthcare screenings, and other healthcare services designed to improve patient health and reduce overall healthcare costs.

We have a responsibility to adopt policies in recognition that pharmacists help patients adhere to their medications to improve health outcomes and reduce the risks of adverse events and unnecessary costly hospital readmissions and emergency room visits. Congress recognized the important role of local pharmacists when it included a Medication Therapy Management (MTM) benefit in Medicare Part D. As we have seen the increasing power of this benefit in improving patient health outcomes, I support community pharmacy's efforts to strengthen the MTM benefit so it is available for seniors and others struggling with chronic conditions and other illnesses.

We also have a responsibility to implement fair reimbursement for pharmacies for the cost effective medications that they dispense. Furthermore, we have a responsibility to protect American consumers and the pharmacies that serve them from corporate middlemen known as Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs). Despite their claims to the contrary, PBMs drive up prescription drug costs, restrict consumers' choice of pharmacy, use gimmicks to delay payments to pharmacies and use private and sensitive health information for illegitimate purposes. Nothing is more important to chain pharmacy than the health and safety of their patients and the well-being of the American public.

Today, I celebrate the value of pharmacy and support efforts to protect access to neighborhood pharmacies and utilize pharmacies to improve the quality and reduce the costs of healthcare. In recognition of the Fourth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, I would like to congratulate pharmacy leaders, pharmacists, students, and executives and the pharmacy community represented by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores for their contributions to the good health of the American people.

IN RECOGNITION OF G.W. CARVER
HIGH SCHOOL WOLVERINES BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING
THE 6A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the G.W. Carver Wolverines Men's Basketball team in Montgomery, Alabama, who recently won the Alabama High School Athletic Association Class 6A State Championship.

After years of state tournament disappointment, including the last two seasons, the Wolverines grasped their first state title since 1984. The Wolverines record was 29 wins and three losses, but ended the season with a 23-

game winning streak. Mr. James "J.J." Jackson is the Head Coach. The members of the team are: Jeremy Johnson, Anthony Jarrett, Zachary Rumph, Craig Sword, Brandon Davis, Tony Armstrong, Brandon Murphy-Blackmon, Brandon Austin, Jose Duncan and Tony Cole.

All of us across Montgomery County and east Alabama are deeply proud of these talented young Alabamians. I'd like to congratulate the team, coaches and G.W. Carver High School on this outstanding achievement.

CONGRATULATING THE ALVIS
HOUSE ON ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Alvis House on its 45th anniversary of providing exceptional service to the Columbus community.

Since 1967, Alvis House has displayed a genuine commitment to its motto, "Reconnecting Families, Restoring Communities and Reinvesting in Ourselves."

From its programs that help individuals re-enter the community after their involvement in the criminal justice system, to the assistance Alvis House provides to families affected by having relatives in jail or in prison, this facility has definitely proven its ability to have a positive impact on the community.

Alvis House also provides a range of individualized habilitation and behavioral support services to those with developmental disabilities that works to help them engage in our communities. For that, I commend the facility.

The work of Alvis House helps to brighten the future by unlocking each individual's potential and investing in the resources that attain results. Alvis House and its accomplishments benefit the communities in which we all live, and I look forward to its continued tradition of excellence and service.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S.
RECOGNITION OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CROATIA

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, April 7, 2012, marks the twentieth anniversary of the United States recognition of the Republic of Croatia as a sovereign country.

Two decades later, the Republic of Croatia has shown its firm and steady commitment to freedom, democracy, and prosperity for all its citizens.

The United States has been a consistent supporter of these endeavors, to which the House of Representatives, and especially the Croatian Congressional Caucus, have played a crucial role.

Over the past twenty years, Croatia has come a long way and the House of Representatives has been there to recognize and encourage its integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions. On December 14, 2005, the House of Representatives approved House Resolu-

tion 529, which recommended and encouraged Croatia's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). In addition, House Resolution 529 commended Croatia for its progress in meeting the political, economic, and military requirements. Finally, the resolution recognized Croatia's contribution to the global war on terrorism and for its constructive participation in the United States-Adriatic Charter.

This was followed up by approval of House Resolution 1266 on July 30, 2008, congratulating Croatia on being invited by NATO to begin accession talks. In the three years since Croatia joined NATO, Croatia has contributed to NATO-led peace-keeping missions and offered its strong support to allied forces, especially in Afghanistan, where Croatian troops are assisting in bringing stability and security to the country.

Currently, we are witnessing another vital moment for our Southeast European ally. They have entered the final phase in its accession negotiations with the EU. Along with forging its Euro-Atlantic future, Croatia has proven to be an ardent advocate for the rest of the Balkan region. Success for Croatia will be success for the region and a beacon for eventual EU and NATO membership for all these countries, once all the conditions and benchmarks have been met.

The 20-year relationship between the U.S. and Croatia has been based on shared values and friendship, and I am confident that it will continue.

I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Croatia on all it has accomplished since becoming a sovereign nation. I look forward to our continuing partnership.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHEN
WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 19, 2012

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Stephen Williams of Franklin, MA on his 38 distinguished years as a member of the Franklin Police Department, culminating in his recent retirement after 8 years as Chief.

Mr. Williams has been tied to Franklin since birth. He grew up in Franklin, attended Franklin High School, and got an associate's degree at Franklin's Dean College before later earning bachelor's and master's degrees at Westfield State College.

After playing college football for Boston University, Mr. Williams served in the Army as a member of the military police in the Vietnam War, putting him on a lifelong course as an advocate of public service and safety.

In his 38 years working for Franklin, 8 as chief, Mr. Williams was an invaluable, highly respected community leader, not only in public safety matters, but in the school system, and in the veterans' community.

He was an early proponent of E911 in Massachusetts, as well as an instrumental leader for the regional South Suburban Police Institute.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Mr. Williams for his lifelong contributions to his community. His